

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

Clean Set of Claims

Sub (3)
16. A method for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:

prompting a user of said telephone answering device to enter an authorized security code on a voice message-by-voice message basis for voice messages secured by a calling party;

B1
comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code accessible by said telephone answering device; and

upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code, allowing said user access to an underlying voice message secured in a single mailbox of said telephone answering device.

Sub D1
17. The method for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device according to claim 16, further comprising:

entering said authorized security code for each of said voice messages.

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23. Apparatus for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device, comprising:

means for prompting a user of said telephone answering device to enter an authorized security code on a voice message-by-voice message basis for voice messages secured by a calling party;

means for comparing an entered authorized security code to at least one pre-stored authorized security code accessible by said telephone answering device, and

means for allowing said user access to an underlying voice message secured in a single mailbox, upon matching said entered authorized security code with said at least one pre-stored authorized security code.

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24. The apparatus for accessing a secured voice message in a single mailbox of a telephone answering device according to claim 23, further comprising:

means for entering said authorized security code for each of said voice messages.